

MAINE INQUIRY WELL OVER

LEADING FACTS OF THE DISASTER HAVE
BEEN LEARNED BY THE COURT.

THE SPANISH INVESTIGATION—NO CLOUD WILL
REMAIN ON CAPTAIN SIGSBEE OR THE
BATTLE-SHIP'S OFFICERS—THE SIT-
UATION IN HAVANA.
[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Havana, March 2, via Key West, March 3.—The leading facts of the Maine disaster are all now in the possession of the Naval Board. The

divers have continued their work during the absence of the Board at Key West. They have discovered nothing to change the evidences first gathered, which showed, apparently, that the explosion was external. Their examination this week has extended alongside the plates, and they have penetrated forward well into the bow.

All they find is merely confirmatory of what was previously discovered. Captain Sampson and his associates were especially anxious to await further work by the divers to determine whether or not mistakes had been made in any particular. Nothing has been found to indicate a mistake. On the contrary, the more thoroughly the hull is examined the more convincing appear the original evidences of explosion from

without. How long the Board will take to formulate its conclusions on this point can be better judged in Washington than in Havana.

THE SPANISH INQUIRY.

Notwithstanding the permission given by the United States Government for Spanish divers to examine the wreck, the investigation by the Spanish authorities of the condition of the ship as it lies in the water proceeds slowly. They seemed to be in no hurry to learn the facts about the hull, magazines and other matters which were first to engage the attention of the Naval Board. The Government has, however, taken

considerable testimony of persons who were in the harbor on the night of the explosion. It gives much weight to the testimony of those who say they saw flames issuing from the Maine before the ship was wrecked by an explosion.

The understanding in Havana is that the Naval Board will be emphatic in exonerating Captain Sigsbee and the officers of the Maine from the imputation of negligence, lack of dis-

discipline or responsibility for the disaster. It has been almost forgotten that until the Board reports on the subject Captain Sigsbee is nominally under a cloud—that is, the inquiry must determine whether or not the commander of the

Maine was in any way responsible for her loss. The secrecy with which the investigation has been conducted has not prevented the testimony

The Board will be able to go further and show not only that there was no accident which could have been prevented, but also no basis for the theories of accident from an unknown cause.

THE ALLEGED MINES IN HAVANA HARBOR

The denial, credited to Señor Du Bose, in Washington, that mines exist in Havana Harbor does not receive the weight that would be given to an official declaration from Captain-General Blanco or Premier Sagasta on the same subject. In official circles here it is the evident purpose to combat the finding of the Naval Board, but not aggressively. The Spanish attitude seems to be that an accident was probable, and that the United States is not justified in making a

demand for reparation. Under the present conditions, the payoff is not positive. The assumption will be that the two Governments, after taking evidence, were unable to agree in their conclusions. However, there has been nothing in the nature

From the present outlook Madrid and Washington are the places where the consequences of the Maine explosion will be determined. Little more than is already known can be learned

harbor for an indefinite period. The wrecking companies will be able to raise the guns of the Maine. The hull is an asset of no value to any government.

President McKinley's desire that the wounded sailors from the Maine be removed to American soil as quickly as possible is being carried out. Few are now in the hospitals here.

TEMPER OF THE SPANISH CLASSES.

The temper of the Spanish classes toward the United States finds some exhibition at present, but not in the form of hostile demonstration. There is a great deal of fervent protests and

actions of fidelity to the mother country. The arrival of the warship Vizcaya has caused an outpouring of the loyal spirit, though it was not exactly spontaneous, for the demonstration was arranged in advance. Apparently a large proportion of the populace are gratified to see the Vizcaya anchored not far from the wreck of the Maine. They believe that with the other warships which are to come, and with the torpedo flotilla, Havana and the ports of Cuba are safe from an American fleet.

EXERCISED ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES.
SPANISH PRESS DISTURBED BY THE REPORT OF UNITED STATES WARSHIPS AT HONG KONG.
Madrid, March 3.—The public is much exercised over the report of the presence of a squadron of United States warships at Hong Kong, as it is presumed the vessels intend to threaten Manila, the capital of the Philippine Islands, in the event of war between the United States and Spain.

The "Imparcial," in an article headed "No

"The presence of the warships at Hong Kong is only Washington's policy, with a view of

"But America has not so many warships as to warrant such bold action. If the Yankees go to the Philippines the Spaniards will go to New-York."

The "Globo" remarks:

"The Government is alive to the critical situation, and is silently preparing for the worst. But it is too diplomatic to disclose the procedure by which it is preparing for emergencies." In conclusion, the "Globo" says:

Government is the best assurance that it will be ready when the occasion requires it. The public, seeing the coolness of Señor Sagasta, should comprehend that he means acts and not words. However limited the public's confidence in the Premier, they, like ourselves, have confidence that better days will dawn promptly."

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LEAGUE ISLAND A BUSY PLACE.

AND THE COLUMBIA ARRIVE—WORK
ON THE WARSHIPS.

Philadelphia, March 2.—Lieutenant William A. Guin, in charge of the Hydrographic Office in the

Bourse for the last two years, received orders from the Navy Department to-day to report for active duty on the monitor Miantonomoh on March 10. The Miantonomoh is undergoing hurried preparations for sea service, and is expected to join the fleet, with the Merrimack, the Terror and

No successor has been named to Lieutenant